

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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R 021345Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5950
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IS, XF, PFOR, US
SUBJECT: ALLON AND PERES REITERATE ISRAELI STANDS ON
GENEVA AND THE PEACE PROCESS

1. AT THE CABINET SESSION MAY 1 FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON
LAID OUT THE ISRAELI VIEW OF THE TIMETABLE LEADING UP
TO THE POSSIBLE RECONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. HE
SAID THAT AFTER THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS THE NEW PRIME
MINISTER WOULD HAVE TO HAVE "FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS" WITH
THE US ADMINISTRATION. FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM
THE TEXT OF THE CABINET COMMUNIQUE.

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2. THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS CLARIFIED ISRAEL'S STAND ON THE CONVENING OF
THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. MR. ALLON SAID THAT ALL THE
FACTORS INVOLVED, INCLUDING ISRAEL, THE UNITED STATES AND
THE ARAB STATES AS WELL, ARE STRIVING FOR THE
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CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE DURING THE LATTER HALF
OF 1977. ISRAEL IS CERTAINLY NO LESS INTERESTED
THAN ANY OTHER FACTOR IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS
TOWARDS MIDEAST PEACE COMMENCING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THE CLARIFICATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE US ADMINISTRATION
WITH THE LEADERS OF THE ARAB STATES CONCERNING
THEIR STANDS, THE DATE OF THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS,

AND THE FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE HELD WITH THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER, FOLLOWING THE FORMATION IN ISRAEL OF A NEW GOVERNMENT--ALL THESE ELEMENTS LEAD TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL BE ABLE TO CONVENE ONLY TOWARDS THE END OF 1977.

3. ISRAEL AGREES WITH THE COMMENTS OF PRESIDENT CARTER, THAT IN ADDITION TO THE TIMETABLE NECESSITATED BY THE ABOVE MENTIONED EVENTS, IT IS VITAL TO ALLOW TIME FOR A THROUGH PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE, SO AS TO FORESTALL THE DANGER OF FAILURE AS THE RESULT OF INSUFFICIENT PREPARATION. IN ANY EVENT, ISRAEL'S READINESS TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS ON PEACE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, REMAINS STEADFAST.

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4. PERES TOLD THE CABINET THAT THERE HAD BEEN ON CHANGES IN AMERICAN POSITIONS SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE CURRENT ROUND OF AMERICAN TALKS WITH THE PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

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5. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SESSION, MINISTER SHIMON PERES, TOOK NOTE OF THE PUBLICATION OF ARAB VERSIONS OF AMERICAN POSITIONS WHICH HAD, SUPPOSEDLY, FOUND UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPRESSION IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETINGS WITH ARAB LEADERS. ISRAEL HAS RECEIVED AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE MEETINGS, BY WHICH (SIC) THESE ARAB VERSIONS ARE NOT EXACT. ACCORDING TO THIS INFORMATION, THERE HAS BEEN NO EROSION IN THE AMERICAN POSITIONS AS A RESULT OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETINGS WITH ARAB LEADERS. AS WILL BE RECALLED, IT WAS REPORTED TO THE CABINET ALREADY AFTER THE PRIME MINISTER'S TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, THAT ON CERTAIN SUBJECTS THERE WAS A GAP BETWEEN AMERICAN THINKING AND ISRAEL'S POSITIONS. THIS GAP STILL EXISTS. AS WILL BE RECALLED, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS YET TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT OF SYRIA AND THE SAUDI CROWN PRINCE.

6. AS REGARDS THE GOALS OF NEGOTIATIONS, MINISTER PERES STATED, IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BY MINISTER KOL ON THIS SUBJECT, THAT ISRAEL IS READY FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF

THE CABINET AND OF THE KNESSET, WITH ISRAEL PREFERRING
NEGOTIATIONS ON AN OVERALL PEACE, BUT READY
ALSO TO DISCUSS AN AGREEMENT FOR TERMINATING THE
STATE OF WAR. THERE IS NO NEED AT THIS STAGE TO
ADD TO OR SUBTRACT FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S RESOLUTIONS
ON THESE SUBJECT.

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